

**MIDWEST NATURAL RESOURCES GROUP
ENVIRONMENTAL ROUND TABLE 2002
November 12-14, 2002
Monona Terrace, Madison, Wisconsin**

**GREAT LAKES TO THE GULF OF MEXICO: RESTORING AND
PRESERVING OUR REGIONAL ECOSYSTEMS**

Agenda

Tuesday evening, November 12th

4:30 – 6:30 - Check In/Registration [*Monona Terrace, Counter #3*]

6:30 – 8:30 - Meet and Greet. Join your fellow participants for hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar
[Grand Terrace – East]

Wednesday morning, November 13th

7:00 – 8:00 – Registration [*Monona Terrace, Counter #3*]

8:00 – 8:15 - Convocation and Welcome (Colonel William Bayles, Commander, Rock
Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) [*Ballroom B*]

Theme I: Regional Nutrient and Sediment Loading

8:15 – 8:45 - Hypoxia in the northern Gulf of Mexico and Nutrients in the Mississippi
River Basin (Herb Buxton, U.S. Geological Survey)

8:45 – 9:00 - Nutrients in the Great Lakes: Is This an Issue Again? (Paul Bertram, Great
Lakes National Program Office, EPA)

Nutrient and Sediment Loading Technical Sessions

9:00 – 9:15 - Identifying High Quality Midwestern Ecosystems: EPA's Approach (John
Perrecone, EPA Region V)

9:15 – 9:30 - GIS and Remote Sensing Techniques for Identifying Restoration Targets in
Watershed Studies (Ricardo Lopez, Environmental Sciences Center,
National Exposure Research Lab, EPA, Las Vegas Nevada)

9:30 – 9:45 - Great Lakes Tributary Planning Model (Jan Miller, Great Lakes Regional Office, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Corps of Engineers)

9:45 – 10:00 - Rapid Assessment Point Method (Roger Windhorn, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Illinois)

10:00 – 10:30 - Break

Theme II: Protecting Regional Ecosystems from Invasive Species

10:30 – 11:00 - Adaptive Management of Invasive Species – Partnering with Federal agencies (Dr. Barry Rice, Associate Scientist, The Nature Conservancy Wildlife and Invasive Species Team)

Invasive Species Technical Sessions

11:00 – 11:15 - Updates on Invasive Species Currently in the Great Lakes and Mississippi Basins (Marc Tuchman, Great Lakes National Program Office, EPA)

11:15 – 11:30 - Status of the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Barrier (Beldon McPherson, Chicago District Corps of Engineers)

11:30-11:45 - Successes and Challenges of Controlling the Invasive Sea Lamprey in the Great Lakes (Gavin Christie, Sea Lamprey Program Manager - Strategic Planning, Great Lakes Fishery Commission)

11:45 – 12:00 - Proposed MOA Between MNRG Agencies; Use of an MNRG Invasive Species Web Page (John Perrecone, EPA Region V and Jane West, USFWS Region 3)

12:00 – 1:30 – Lunch [*Ballroom C*]

Guest Speaker: Mr. Ben Proctor, Upper Mississippi River Congressional Task Force

Wednesday afternoon, November 13th

1:30 – 3:30 - Communications Sub-Committee Meeting [*Dane Room*]

1:30 – 3:30 - Breakout Groups [*Meeting Rooms O, P, Q, R*]

1. Four facilitated breakout groups will be formed with the following subject matters:

- I. Great Lakes ecosystems sediment and nutrient loading (hypoxia) (Facilitator: Roger Nanney, NRCS Illinois. Technical Expert: Jan Miller, COE Great Lakes and Ohio River Division) [*Meeting Room O*]
 - II. Mississippi River tributary nutrient and sediment loading (Gulf hypoxia) (Facilitator: Lyn Kirshner, NRCS. Technical Experts: Owen Dutt, COE St. Louis District and Teresa Woods, USFWS Region 3) [*Meeting Room P*]
 - III. Great Lakes ecosystems invasive species (Facilitator: Marcia D'amato.EPA Great Lakes National Program Office. Technical Expert: Marc Tuchman EPA Great Lakes National Program Office) [Meetint Room Q]
 - IV. Mississippi River Basin ecosystems invasive species (Facilitator: Tom Magnuson, USFWS. Technical Experts: Sandy Noble, USFWS Region 3 and Jerry Rasmussen, USFWS) [*Meeting Room R*]
- 2. Breakout groups I and II will brainstorm to identify programs available from their agencies including: resources, tools (e.g., methods), information and technical assistance that can be used to reduce nutrient and sediment within watersheds.
 - 3. Breakout groups III and IV will help develop an inter-agency framework for addressing invasive species and brainstorm for the MNRG Invasive Species web page.
- 4:00 – 5:00 - Breakout group facilitators will meet to edit and summarize the information from the groups for presentation to Senior Leaders on Thursday morning in two 15-minute reports [*Grand View Café area*]:
- I. Resources to address nutrient and sediment loading (hypoxia) in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin
 - II. Resources to address invasive species in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin

3:30 – 3:45 - Break

3:45 – 5:00 - Focus Area Meetings

Focus areas will convene and identify the top two actions that they can do to effectively address the situations each of a) nutrient and sediment loading, and b) invasive species, within their Focus Area. Focus Area teams will also identify what they need to accomplish these actions. Responses will be reported back to Seniors Thursday morning. [*Meeting Rooms K – R, Dane Room, Hall of Fame Room, Wisconsin Room*]

5:00 - Dinner (On your own)

Thursday morning, November 14th

General Assembly [*Ballroom B*]

7:30 – 7:40 - Introduction (Brigadier General Don T. Riley, Commander, Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

7:40 – 8:15 - 15-minute reports from Breakout session facilitators on:

- I. Resources to address nutrient and sediment loading (hypoxia) in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin
- II. Resources to address invasive species in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin

8:15 – 8:45 - Discussion: “Where do we go from here?” (BG Riley, Senior Leaders, and all).

8:45 – 10:00 - Focus Area Leaders present top two actions that they can do to effectively address the situations of a) nutrient and sediment loading and b) invasive species, within their Focus Area, along with what they need to accomplish these actions. (Each Focus Group will have five minutes only.)

10:00 – 10:30 - Break

10:30 – 11:00 - Senior Leaders respond to Focus Area presentations and provide direction.

11:00 - Adjourn

Senior Leader Agenda

Wednesday afternoon, November 13th

12:00 – 1:30 - Lunch/Awards

**Guest Speaker: Mr. Ben Proctor, Upper Mississippi River
Congressional Task Force**

1:30 – 3:30 - Senior Leader Session [*Ballroom B*]

Old Business	(30 min.)
Wetlands Tracking Project (Tom Glatzel)	(20 min.)
Clear Skies Initiative (EPA Air & Radiation Div.)	(20 min.)
Yellow River Pilot Project (John Sowl)	(20 min.)
Cumulative Impacts Assessment (Ken Westlake)	(15 min.)

3:15 – 3:45 - Break

3:45 – 5:00 - Senior Leader Session, cont'd.

Communications Sub-Committee	(15 min.)
Coastal America Participation Issue; CWRP (Owen Dutt)	(15 min.)
Agency Highlights and Issues	(30 min.)
Date for February & May/June Meetings and Adjourn	(15 min.)

6:00 - Senior Leaders' Dinner with Planning Committee

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